

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

REPORT NO.

25X1

TOPIC Finsterwalde Airfield

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PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 5 and 27 July 1952, the following railroad shipments arrived at Finsterwalde airfield:

Date	Railroad Cars	From	Load
5 July	8 tank cars	Riesa	490, 192, 270, 300, 267, 265, 180, 200 hectoliters
11 "	8 tank cars	Riesa	265, 190, 157, 267, 192, 190, 300, 300 hectoliters
	1 tank car	Velten	185 hectoliters
13 "	3 tank cars	Riesa	300, 300, 292 hectoliters
	3 cars	Brieske	coal
14 "	9 tank cars	Riesa	300, 240, 135, 250, 200, 200, 265, 150, 180 hectoliters
17 "	8 tank cars	Riesa	267, 256, 180, 220, 190, 280, 180, 170 hectoliters
19 "	1 tank car	Velten	490 hectoliters
	4 tank cars	Riesa	200, 200, 300, 300, hectoliters
	9 tank cars	Cottbus	174, 265, 145, 265, 244, 130, 200, 180, 110 hectoliters
	2 cars	Torgau	ammunition
20 "	1 tank car	Velten	184 hectoliters

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20 July 2 cars Maellrose

flour

22 July 1 tank car Velten

200 hectoliters of  
M8 type solvent 25X125 July 3 cars Cottbus-Spreewald  
railroad station

foodstuff

2 cars Frankfurt

foodstuff 25X1

2. In mid-July, an estimated 2,000 soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets were stationed at Finsterwalde airfield. Truck [ ] and sedan [ ] the latter used by a general who was billeted on Forststrasse in Finsterwalde, were observed at the field. The general repeatedly inspected the field. (2) 25X1

3. The following air activity was observed at the field between 11 and 20 July:  
11 July. At 6:30 p.m., a DC-3 plane [ ] 25X1

[ ] landed at the field coming from the north. The plane took off at 6:45 p.m.

12 July. Between 5:30 a.m. and noon, there was flying by jet bombers of both types which had their landing gears retracted. The flights made could not be observed.

14 July. Between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m., flying was practiced. At 12:30 p.m., a jet bomber towed a sleeve target which was attacked by two jet bombers.

15 July. At 7:15 a.m., [ ] five jet bombers took off.

17 and 19 July. Between about 6:30 and 10 a.m., jet bombers of both types made local flights. The planes had their landing gears retracted.

12 and 20 July. Nine jet bombers were counted at the field. The hangars were closed.

4. On 12 July, 30 soldiers wearing black-bordered black and redbordered black epaulets were laying a two-wire telephone line on the poles of the public telephone service along Sonnenwalder Strasse. (3) On 18 July, [ ] 25X1  
[ ] a line of the same type was newly laid along Highway 96 toward Caro. Between the southwestern and northwestern corners of Caro airfield, the cable ran underground. (4) Work continued on the fence around the field. 25X1

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6. On 21 July, nine jet bombers of both types were counted at the field. Construction work was being done on a board fence which extended from the field entrance as far as a point in line with the western hangar and, on the other side, east of Schacksdorf via triangulation point 113.8, parallel to and south of Heinenstrasse toward the west.

7. The following aircraft and flying activity were observed at the field between 24 and 29 July:

24 July. Ten jet bombers were counted in front of the hangars at the field. Five of them appeared to be new while the other five planes were old ones.

25 July. Between 8 a.m. and noon, there was flying by jet bombers.

26 and 27 July. No flying was observed.

28 July. During the morning, there was moderate air activity by jet bombers.

29 July. A jet bomber took off from the field at 9:40 a.m., circled widely once over the field and landed at 10:05 a.m. Shortly afterward, another take-off was made. Local flights of 10 to 15 minutes were made up to about noon.

8. Between 24 and 29 July, the AA gun emplacement on the northern edge of the field was still occupied by AA guns, apparently of 85-mm caliber. On 29 July, another four guns which had their gun barrels in almost vertical position were ready for dispatch near hangar 1. (5)

9. The western end of the runway was exactly south of kilometer marker 0.2 on Finsterwalde-Schacksdorf road, and the eastern end of the runway was south of kilometer marker 3.1. As the road makes a slight curve, about 100 meters must be deducted from 2,900 meters so that the runway may have a length of about 2,800 meters. The width of the runway was determined to be about 60 meters. (6) and (7)

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Comments.

(1) This information indicates that a total of about 1,200,000 liters of fuel arrived at the field between 5 and 22 July 1952.

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(2) The bomber corps headquarters is probably quartered in the buildings on Forststrasse, Finsterwalde.

(3) The laying of telephone lines was probably conducted in connection with exercises of signal troops in the Finsterwalde area.

(4) The line was probably placed underground because it was an obstacle in the flying lane.

(5) Twelve 85-mm AA guns are believed to be located on the northern edge of the field. 16 guns are located at the field. The presence of 16 guns is confirmed by the information that four additional guns were observed on 29 July.

(6) According to available information, the runway is only about 2,550 meters long.

(7) The report confirms that jet bombers practice flying at the field.

No Pe-2 planes were observed during the reported period.

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